

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q65160

Kazuhiro TSUJITA

Allowed: November 2, 2007

Appln. No.: 09/888,444

Group Art Unit: 3737

Confirmation No.: 9702

Examiner: John F. RAMIREZ

Filed: June 26, 2001

For: FLUORESCENT IMAGE OBTAINING APPARATUS

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

ATTN: MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

REMARKS

Applicant offers the following comments in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance set forth on page 2 of the Notice of Allowability dated November 2, 2007.

Applicant submits that the Examiner's Statement refers to elements that are not included in each of the independent claims. For example, the distance parameter detecting device is not believed to be an element of independent claim 1. The claims should be deemed allowable based on their respective recitations.

Patent Office personnel are requested to note that the present submission does not adversely affect the patent term adjustment accrued by the Applicant to date. As emphasized in the "Clarification of 37 C.F.R. §1.704(c)(10) – Reduction of Patent Term Adjustment for Certain Types of Papers Filed After a Notice of Allowance Has Been Mailed," 1247OG111 (6/26/01), "a

response to the examiner's reasons for allowance" is an example of a paper that does "not cause substantial interference and delay in the patent issue process" and is "not considered a 'failure to engage in reasonable efforts' to conclude processing or examination of the application."

Therefore, the Applicant remains entitled to the full patent term adjustment set forth on page 3 of the Notice of Allowance dated November 2, 2007.

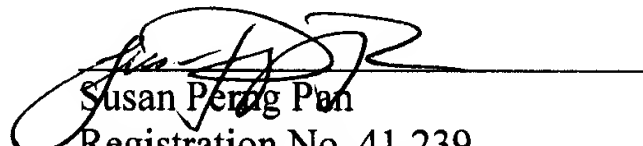
Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER


Susan Perle Pan
Registration No. 41,239

Date: January 31, 2008